Joint venture partners of NTPC for captive mining

860. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NTPC, largest power generation company, is planning for multiple Joint venture companies for its ambitious diversification into captive mining; and

(b) if so, whether NTPC has identified Joint Venture partners for captive mining?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has already appointed a Consultant for preparing selection criteria and other related documents for upfront selection of Joint Venture partner(s). NTPC has also approached Coal India Ltd. (CIL) for development of mining blocks through Joint Venture route.

Rural Electrification under PMGY

861. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) since when the rural electrification scheme under the Pradhan mantri Gramodaya Yojana was launched;

(b) the number of villages of Andhra Pradesh electrified during the last three years under this scheme and the funds incurred there on during the period;

(c) whether the name of this scheme has been changed now; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and utility thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana was launched in the year 2000-01. The rural electrification component was included under the PMGY from the Annual Plan 2001-02.

(b) The number of villages of Andhra Pradesh electrified and the funds allocated and released during the last three years as reported by Planning Commission are as under:—